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October 20, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Heather Murakami, City Council Administration

FROM: Dion Mesta, Legislative Aide to Councilmember Elefante 

SUBJECT: 2017 Rail~Volution Conference | Building Livable Communities with Transit

Attached, please find my 2017 Rail~Volution Conference report which was held from September 17-20, 2017, at the Sheraton Denver Downtown, Denver, Colorado.

Rail~Volution Conference 2017
"Building Livable Communities with Transit"

September 17 – 20, 2017
Denver, Colorado

Travel Report submitted by Dion Mesta
Office of Councilmember Brandon Elefante
City Council, City & County of Honolulu

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

I arrived in Denver, used Regional Transportation District (RTD) University of Colorado A Line to travel from Denver International Airport to Union Station. From Union Station, I used RTD's Free 16th Street MallRide to travel from Union Station to the hotel. Total cost of traveling from Denver International Airport to Union Station totaled nine dollars, and I found the system was efficient, convenient, and easy to use.



Free 16th Street MallRide



Source: <http://www.rtd-denver.com/FREEMallRide.shtml>

Self-Guided Tour of Union Station

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Toured Union Station located in lower downtown Denver. Denver's Union Station is a public-private partnership (P3) development venture with opportunities to shop, dine, and stay. The Union Station Transit Center is a multimodal hub offering services such as local and regional bus routes, Free MallRide, Free MetroRide, and commuter rail.



Union Station



Union Station

Welcome Reception at Union Station
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Attended reception at Union Station.

Opening Plenary

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
SPONSORED BY WSP USA

Introduction to Rail~Volution 2017

Emcee: Larry Hoy, Chair, Board of Directors, Regional Transportation District (RTD), Denver, CO

“The Denver region has changed dramatically in the 17 years since Rail~Volution last visited: It’s turned into a magnet for millennials, spurring some of the fastest growth in the nation. Its transit network has developed into one the largest in the country and continues to evolve as the Regional Transportation District (RTD) builds out the remainder of the FasTracks network. Innovations in affordable housing have created a major source of new funding. But even with these successes, the Denver region continues to evolve. Joining local and national leaders as we set the stage for Rail~Volution 2017 and the challenges and opportunities ahead for us all.”

Welcome to Colorado

John Hickenlooper, Governor, State of Colorado, Denver, CO

Governor Hickenlooper welcomed attendees and participants to Rail~Volution 2017. Governor Hickenlooper spoke about his background as a geologist and his career in business as the cofounder of the Wynkoop Brewing Company in Denver. He also discussed background information on RTD FasTracks and Amazon’s solicitation of bids from cities across North America for a place to build its second headquarters.

The Denver Story Since 2000

Moderator: Maria Garcia Berry, Chief Executive Officer, CRL Associates, Denver, CO

John Hickenlooper, Governor, State of Colorado, Denver, CO

Christine Marquez-Hudson, President/CEO, The Denver Foundation, Denver, CO

David Genova, General Manager/CEO, Regional Transportation District (RTD), Denver, CO

Mizriam Cordero, Vice President, Government Affairs, Denver Chamber of Commerce, Denver, CO

Open Discussion:

Panelists were asked to discuss lessons on dramatic regional change and what was required for success; the type of leadership, collaborations, and partnerships that emerged from the challenges; and how the Denver region can remain affordable and a popular place to live, work, and play.

Governor Hickenlooper discussed his commitment to FasTracks, how more affordable housing is needed to suit young professionals, importance of mixed socio-economics, and a concept he called “friendly friction,” which he used to design his business, Wynkoop Brewpub. His restaurant was designed with the intention of getting people to bump into each other, creating an environment where people are more willing to talk to each other. The concept of “friendly friction” is now present throughout Colorado.

David Genova spoke on the RTD system, RTD FasTracks, the Transportation Expansion (T-REX) Project, which is a \$1.67 billion dollar highway expansion and light rail project directed by the Colorado Department of Transportation and the Regional Transportation District. He discussed the challenges with funding, the remaining FasTracks projects to complete, the struggle to hire employees for bus and rail operations, the decline in bus ridership, and how public transportation can stay relevant with technology.

Mizriam Cordero provided background on the Denver Chamber of Commerce, discussed the Chamber's support of FasTracks, and Public-Private Partnerships (P3s) as a way to grow.

Christine Marquez-Hudson discussed increasing housing costs and the displacement of renters when landlords sell to capitalize on increased market values. Marquez-Hudson spoke on the Denver Regional Transit Oriented Development Fund, a \$24 million dollar fund with the goal of creating and preserving 2,000 affordable housing units near transit corridors by 2024. Marquez-Hudson also discussed Mile High Connects, which is a broad partnership of organizations from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors that are committed to increasing access to housing choices, jobs, schools, and essential services through public transit.

Disruption: Rail~Volution in the Time of Trump

Earl Blumenauer, Congressman, 3rd District, Oregon; Board Member, Rail~Volution

Congressman Blumenauer discussed the accentuation of road use charges based on miles traveled as an alternative to the gas tax, the focus on making road users pay for the cost, and how road user charges will raise revenue and shape behavior.

Displacement, Gentrification and TOD: A Done Deal?

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Moderator: Allison Billings, Principal, Innovative Urban Strategies, Boulder, CO

Eric Engstrom, Principal Planner, City of Portland, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, Portland, OR

Alysia Osborne, AICP, Director of Historic West End, Charlotte, Center City Partners, Charlotte, NC

Renee Matinez-Stone, Initiative Director, Perspective-3, Denver, CO

“Gentrification happens to neighborhoods; displacement happens to people.”

Renee Matinez-Stone discussed the displacement risk index, outreach and the importance of hearing from the community, providing opportunities for leadership, education and housing, and prefab accessory dwelling units in West Denver.

Alysia Osborne discussed investment and reinvestment in the Historic West End in Charlotte, North Carolina, and the importance of keeping residents in the neighborhood. Osborne discussed P3s, creating a vibrant neighborhood center, and working with businesses. She underscored the importance of letting residents know that it is a growing area and how important being intentional, inclusive, and innovative is to outreach. Osborne stressed that communication and trust is key when dealing with residents in a growing neighborhood. One must change his or her mindset from something is happening to them to something is happening with them.

We learned about the 2016 Tactical Plan - Historic West End Initiative and the small neighborhood grant program, which helps support neighborhood initiatives and unique community events in neighborhoods

located in the focus area of the Historic West End Initiative (Wesley Heights, Biddleville-Smallwood, and Seversville). The small neighborhood grant program allows the community to celebrate who they are. An example of the small neighborhood grant program is the two-day music festival in the Historic West End called Soul Junction.

Osborne spoke about aligning the corridor vision, their retention strategy, and how they intend to continue to implement the tactical plan. She underscored the importance of getting philanthropic entities involved to get things done fast.

Eric Engstrom discussed the mixed use TOD boom with the construction of 15,000 new dwellings in Portland, the importance of policy response, location policy, and how affordable housing should have access to schools, jobs, and transportation. Engstrom spoke on the allowance for accessory dwelling units and duplexes in single dwelling zones, rent control programs, and sparking more conversations for rental protections. He discussed Portland's rule requiring landlords to pay renters they evict without cause or renters who must move as a result of their landlord raising their rent by 10 percent or more in one year.

Getting People into Seats

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, NOON - 1:30 PM

Jeffrey Sullivan, Public Involvement Associate, GoTriangle, Research Triangle Park, NC

Lucia Phan, Senior Communications Officer, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO), Los Angeles, CA

Torrey Lyons, Doctoral Student, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

Open Discussion:

How do you measure the effectiveness of a transit system?

- Ridership, access to jobs, education, stewardship, satisfaction, experience, ease of use, on time/reliability, brand, culture, and community options

Shifting culture

- Get away from the idea that public transit is for the poor

Marketing public transit

- LA Metro - capture demographic in lifestyle changing events
 - Use social media to answer questions
- Dallas Area Rapid Transit - target psychographics
 - Psychographics is defined as "the study and classification of people according to their attitudes, aspirations, and other psychological criteria, especially in market research"
 - Branding - make them want to be a part of something bigger
- Get to know Metro campaign - market brand holistically
- Dallas Area Rapid Transit - break down barriers with a how to ride campaign
 - Use travel ambassadors to answer questions
- LA Metro - On the Move Riders Program
- Train the trainer program with organizations on how to use services
- Manage through change
- Check assumptions and ask what do people want?
- Work with retailers - construction on project
- Focus on Millennials and people transitioning, i.e., school, empty nesters
- Reach out through community centers, seniors centers, PTAs, and neighborhood organizations

- Market to new tenants as they are making new decisions
- Get people to engage online and then get them to meet in person
- Dallas Area Rapid Transit - "Lines at the pump? We can help."
- Communicate/educate on the cost of driving
- Most effective campaign doesn't cost anymore that staff time
- Communicate with them the way they want to communicate - If they email, email back and don't send a letter
- Share personal stories as it adds authenticity

The Tension Mounts: Creating and Financing Transit-Oriented Neighborhoods

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2:30 - 3:30 PM

Moderator: Lucy Galbraith, AICP, Director, Transit Oriented Development, Metro Transit, Minneapolis, MN
Nadine Fogarty, Principal, Vice President, Strategic Economics, Berkeley, CA
Judith Taylor, Principal, HR&A Advisors, Los Angeles, CA
Jodie Misiak, Implementation Project Manager, Build America Bureau, US Department of Transportation, Washington, DC

Nadine Fogarty discussed the decline of funding at the federal level for infrastructure projects, talked about addressing conflicts in projects citing Honolulu, Oakland, and Westlake Corridor Extension, and public-private partnerships.

Judith Taylor discussed projects such as King Cross in London and the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, the use of government grants, and public-private partnerships to support infrastructure projects.

Jodie Misiak discussed the Build America Bureau and bureau credit programs such as Railroad Rehabilitation & Improvement Financing (RRIF), Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA), and Private Activity Bonds (PABS). Misiak also discussed the BelRed Street Network in Bellevue, Washington and the 12 multimodal roadways planned to support new BelRed neighborhood in the north part of the city.

Whats Happening? Communicating During Planning and Construction

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Moderator: Lonnie Blaydes, Senior Advisor, Herzog Contracting Corp., Dallas, TX
JC Lacey, Business Liaison, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO), Los Angeles, CA
Jennifer Swenson, Blue U Program Coordinator, Marketing, Kimley-Horn, St. Paul, MN
Kristen Torkelson, Project Communications Manager, ADG PC, Oklahoma City, OK

Panelists discussed strategies to mitigate construction impacts on downtown streets during streetcar and light rail projects, specifically, strategies for reaching into schools, businesses and the community – early on – to educate and inform.

Jennifer Swenson discussed the Blue University (Blue U) program in St. Paul, Minnesota. Created in 2015, Blue U partners with schools and communities along the Blue Line Light Rail Transit System (BLRT) extension corridor and invests in education to help build future transit planners, engineers, architects, and construction staff in Minnesota.

Blue U works with teachers on what kids are learning, hosts STEM based pop up events, summer safety camps, marketing classes for students where students complete surveys, develop apps, develop marketing plans, and have engineers visit to talk about safety during construction as well as expose kids to architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) industries.

Kristen Torkelson discussed the \$131 million dollar MAPS 3 Modern Streetcar or OKC Streetcar project in Oklahoma City, which will link important districts in and around downtown Oklahoma City. Torkelson underscored the importance of managing expectations and timely communication with all those who will be affected by the construction and putting in a year's worth of time to get to know people who will be affected. Some examples of outreach strategies include surveys, planning for changes to include customer parking, delivery schedules, coordinating with businesses and third party utilities, and sending updates via mailchimp and Twitter so that people can plan accordingly.

JC Lacey discussed LA Metro's Eat, Shop, Play campaign. The Eat, Shop, Play campaign brings focused attention to businesses impacted by construction of the Crenshaw/LAX, Purple Line Extension, and the Regional Connector Transit Project. Eat, Shop, Play campaign supports businesses that are directly impacted by construction by providing businesses technical services to include marketing, spotlights, web presence, social media and social media support, lunch meet ups, video spotlights on social media, and vendor days once a quarter at Union station. Two hundred businesses participate in LA Metro's Eat, Shop, Play campaign.

Lacey also discussed Metro's Business Interruption Fund (BIF), which was created through Board authorization. According to Metro's Business Interruption Fund Fact Sheet:

Metro has designated \$10,000,000 annually to be used for implementation of the BIF. Qualifying small businesses may be eligible to receive a maximum grant amount of \$50,000 annually based on demonstrated business revenue loss. The BIF grant is applied to cover fixed operating expenses such as rent/ mortgage, utilities, insurance, payroll and other expenses as determined by the program administrator.

Metro's BIF is administered as a pilot program in collaboration with Pacific Coast Regional Small Business Development Corporation (PCR). PCR, serving as the fund administrator, is a Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) with more than 30 years supporting the small business community throughout Los Angeles County.

Second Plenary Session

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM

SPONSORED BY CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO

Headwinds or Tailwinds? Riding Research into the Future

Emcee: Beverly Scott, PhD, CEO of Beverly Scott Associates LLC; Board Member Rail~Volution, Albany, CA
John Martin, President/CEO, Southwestern Institute of Research, Inc., Richmond, VA

John Martin discussed how building livable communities with transit fits in as well as identified major headwinds and positive tailwinds shaping the future of TOD and equitable-living communities. John emphasized the importance of focusing on TOD that designs quality places for people to live, work, and play. Regional connectivity is key to Aurora's success.

Headwinds:

- Don't get "blockbustered" or lose relevance
- Anti-transit groups
 - National group not just small groups
 - More organized opposition in referendum
- Federal funding is going to be more competitive
- Tech supported convenience - goPuff
- Reduce demand for travel
- ½ freelance workforce to ¼ freelance workforce
- Every space becomes livable and workable
- Autonomous vehicles are coming

Tailwinds:

- Shift to sharing economy, bikes, cars, apartments, TNCs
- Shift to more mobility options with sustainable private sector partners
- Gas prices
- Tolls
- Driving costs
- More people living in cities = greater density
- Growing preference for a change to a 15 minute livable community
- Game changing trend and consequences for cities - age shift
- Winning cities are a magnet for young people such as Millennials and Generation Z
- 74 million seniors by 2030
 - More older people than younger people
- Labor force/work force should be present - talent attraction and retention
- Embrace mobility and transit as economic drivers

Bringing Permanently Affordable Housing to TODs

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

MOBILE WORKSHOP

I participated in a mobile workshop tour led by the Urban Land Conservancy (ULC) of Denver's best equitable transit-oriented developments (ETODs) at RTD's West and Southwest rail line stations. The mobile workshop toured the Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales Library, the Sheridan Station and RTD park-n-ride facility, and the Evan Station Lofts. Work at the Sheridan Station involved multiple municipalities, including the City and County of Denver, City of Lakewood, and Jefferson County. The station site is made up of four parcels of land, three vacant lots that were purchased from RTD, and one that currently houses the Jody Apartments. ULC purchased the land for Evan Station Lofts for \$1.2 million dollars from the \$15 million dollar Denver Transit Oriented (TOD) Fund. ULC sold the land to Medici Communities, who began construction. Evan Station Lofts was built with 50 units of affordable workforce housing and 7,100 square feet of commercial space. Denver's TOD fund allowed ULC to land bank the property while Medici secured financing.



Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales Library



Sheridan Station and RTD park-n-ride facility



Evan Station Lofts



Evan Station Lofts

First and Last Mile Project Implementation

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Moderator: Diego Cardoso, Executive Officer, Transit Corridors, Active Transportation and Sustainability, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO), Los Angeles, CA

William Bacon, Policy and Financial Analyst, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, San Francisco, CA

Jennifer McGrath, Active Transportation Planner, Utah Transit Authority, Salt Lake City, UT

Circe Torruellas, CityWide Planner/Project Manager for DC Circulator, District Department of Transportation, Washington, DC

Panelists discussed how collaborations on creating first and last mile connections succeed in Salt Lake City, San Francisco, and Washington, DC, and how local partners work together to implement effective mobility options and expand existing transit infrastructure.

William Bacon discussed how public and private shuttle services have become an increasingly vital — and visible — part of the Bay Area transportation network because of the concentration of jobs, the need for transit in the Bay Area, and the last mile problem in Menlo Park, Palo Alto, and East Palo Alto. With the average cost of a home in Palo Alto being \$2.7 million dollars, large employers such as Stanford University

and Facebook are faced with the question of how to get staff who don't live in the area to work. Their response has been by providing shuttle service for their employees.

Shuttle use is widespread, but little data exists as to how many people ride and how important shuttles are to mobility. According to the 2016 Bay Area Shuttle Census, if shuttles collectively were treated as one transit system, they would represent the seventh largest transit system in the Bay Area in terms of ridership.

Circe Torruellas discussed the DC Circulator, which provides public transportation to the District's main attractions at a cost of only one dollar. The system provides close to five million trips a year. With a fleet of 67 buses, the Circulator services each of its 136 stops every ten minutes, and has a 97 percent customer satisfaction rating.

Jennifer McGrath discussed Utah Transit Authority's First/Last Mile Strategies Study, bike and walk buffers, ladders of opportunity, and access improvements through transit.

Go Fearless: Meeting your Big and Bold Affordable Housing Goals

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Moderator: Melinda Pollack, AICP, Vice President, Enterprise Community Partners, Denver, CO

Sarah Lovell, TOD Planning Manager, Sound Transit, Seattle, WA

Abby Thorne-Lyman, Transit-Oriented Development Program Manager, San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District, Oakland, CA

Debbie Frank, Senior Development Project Manager, Transit Oriented Development, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Atlanta, GA

Patrick McDonough, AICP, Manager of Planning and Transit-Oriented Development, GoTriangle, Carrboro, NC

Jenna Hornstock, Executive Officer, Transit Oriented Communities, Los Angeles County, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Los Angeles, CA

Janelle Chan, Chief of Real Estate, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, Boston, MA

Open Discussion:

Janelle Chan discussed Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority's (MBTA), TOD policy, and affordability requirements. For MassDOT or MBTA, Joint Developments greater than or equal to 15 residential units will include at least 20 percent of units as affordable to low and/or moderate-income workforce households. Chan also discussed how affordable housing and transit are key components in developing and moving regions forward.

Debbie Frank discussed Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority's policy goal of having at least 20 percent of the units in residential or mixed-use TOD projects as affordable to workforce households; seniors with low, moderate, or fixed incomes; and persons with disabilities. Frank also discussed reduced fares to assist with the reduction in disposable income spent on transportation for individuals in low to moderate income brackets and the importance of working with community partners.

Sarah Lovell with Sound Transit in Seattle, WA, discussed using affordable housing as a preservation technique and ORCA Lift program, which is a reduced fare program where income-qualified riders can save

up to 50 percent or more on: Metro Transit buses, Kitsap Transit buses, Sound Transit Link light rail, Sound Transit Regional Express buses, Sounder Trains, King County Water Taxis, or Seattle Streetcars.

Abby Thorne-Lyman with the Bay Area Rapid Transit District discussed meeting affordable housing on the front end and the cumulative 20 percent goal of affordable housing units per station.

Patrick McDonough with GoTriangle in North Carolina discussed TOD, transit, and social mobility.

Jenna Hornstock with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, spoke on parking demand management and the need to provide more transit to low income households who are forced to work further away from jobs due to escalating home prices – 75 percent of riders are low income. She discussed TOD and Los Angeles County's 30 percent affordable housing goal on the total portfolio value.

Walkability One Step at a Time

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Moderator: Steve Dotterer, Board Member, Rail~Volution, Portland, OR

Darren Davis and Alex Gaio, Transport Integration Manager, Auckland Transport, Auckland Council, Freemans Bay, New Zealand

Rory Renfro, AICP, Senior Planning Associate, Alta Planning + Design, Portland, OR

Matthew Jones, Transportation Planner, City of Boulder, Boulder, CO

Darcy Kitching, Boulder Program Director, Walk2Connect, Denver, CO

Alex Gaio with Auckland Transport, Auckland Council, Freemans Bay, New Zealand

- The Business Case for Walking
 - A livable community begins and ends with walking
 - Auckland Transport
 - First time since 1950s that there are more people commuting to City Centre by public transport, walking, and cycling than driving
 - Queen Street: number of pedestrians doubled since 2012
 - 34 percent increase in pedestrians in City Centre
 - 49 percent increase in retail spending since 2010
 - Used Value Urban Realm Toolkit (VURT) to assign a dollar value to pedestrian delays
 - VURT developed by Transport for London for use in the United Kingdom
 - Findings: Reducing pedestrian delays equals dollar benefit
 - Value of pedestrian connections to businesses
 - Close to amenities
 - Cost isn't a big deal
 - People meet more often
 - Study finds that decreasing pedestrian delays increases the economy in the study area
 - One percent increase in walking increases study area economy by 0.53 percent
 - No systematic way to estimate future walking
 - Council working with regional transport to work on VURT
 - More data on pedestrian movements

Rory Renfro with Alta Planning + Design, Portland, OR

- Wayfinding within and beyond the standards
 - Wayfinding: Information used to convey location and direction to people in motion
 - Benefits:
 - Travel efficiency
 - Miles saved by adding wayfinding
 - Multimodal
 - Health
 - Economic investment
 - Adds to tourism and business
 - Provides a sense of identity for community
 - Principles: predictable, progressive, disclosure, be conclusive, keep information simple
 - Muted supplement
 - Adds more flexibility
 - Displays time and distance
 - Process:
 - Establish community goals - what message do you want to convey about your community?
 - Identify site types
 - Identify what destinations people want and need to go to?
 - Identify normal paths of travel
 - Identify best practices
 - Provide clear simple graphics, time and distance, and ADA requirements

Matthew Jones with City of Boulder, Boulder, CO

Darcy Kitching, Boulder Program Director, Walk2Connect, Denver, CO

- Boulder Walks: Past, Present and Future
- Boulder Walk 2017 at: www.boulderwalks.org
 - Created in 2013-2014 by city staff planner and endorsed by city council
 - Contracted with Walk2Connect in June 2015 for 30,000 dollars
 - Four walk and bike events in the month of June 2015 as well as 54 other walking events including walk audits and neighborhood walks in 2015
 - Walk2Connect trained 20 leaders in Boulder
 - Highlights pathways that people don't know about
 - Uses Meetup for local connections - 700 total members with 200 active members in Boulder
 - Walk2Connect assisted with transportation master plan and pedestrian plan
 - Self-guided walking
 - Boulder walk and bike loop
 - Education program in Boulder
 - Way of the path for cyclist and pedestrians

Closing Plenary Session

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, NOON - 1:30 PM

SPONSORED BY AECOM

Emcee: Dan Bartholomay, Chief Executive Officer, Rail~Volution, Minneapolis, MN

Moderator: Maurice Jones, President, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), New York, NY

Bill Peduto, Mayor, City of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Michael Hancock, Mayor, City and County of Denver, Denver, CO

Libby Schaaf, Mayor, City of Oakland, Oakland, CA

Panelists were asked to share their thoughts on resiliency and prosperity, clean transportation, infrastructure, affordable housing, dealing with the threat of displacement, and opportunities and how their cities respond with vision.

"Remember, it's about the people."

Mayor Schaaf discussed the removal of parking restrictions, super commuters and the importance of housing and transportation connection when discussing equity, working with P3s, equity component for bikeshare and fares for low income members, and partnerships with community groups. Mayor Schaaf also spoke on the setup of the Oakland Fund, a private non-profit to accept private money and how it's an opportunity and place to experiment in the public sphere with private money.

Mayor Schaaf discussed how placemaking should be community generated. An example would be "Paint the Town! City of Oakland" - where community members paint temporary street murals on Oakland's roads. Another example would be the Public Sidewalk Announcement. She talked about partnering with Kiva to create Kiva Oakland, which provides interest-free loans for small business. Mayor Schaaf also discussed the strengthening of renter protections and naturally occurring affordable housing, no inclusionary zoning and impact fees with no fees in certain areas.

Mayor Peduto discussed the importance of having strategic partners and philanthropic organizations to work with, affordable housing, and identifying transit deserts.

Mayor Hancock spoke on the "New Normal" or a previously unfamiliar situation that has become standard, maintaining expectations that macro projects are delivered, and how one must be creative to make things happen. Mayor Hancock talked about P3 projects, Union station and Brighton Boulevard, and how they worked with private partners to change the landscape.



Union Station



Union Station



Union Station

Self-guided Tour of the Golden Triangle

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

The Golden Triangle is south of downtown and has a mixture of arts, culture, and history. The neighborhood boasts more than 50 galleries, museums, art studios, stores, and restaurants. I was most impressed with the close proximity of the Colorado State Capitol, Denver City and County Building, Denver Justice Center, and Civic Center Park.



Colorado State Capitol



Denver City and County Building

The Rail~Volution Conference 2017 provided extensive educational opportunities to collaborate and network with dozens of local, regional, and national stakeholders from all levels of public and private sectors, working on transportation projects all around the country. The conference provided the opportunity to ask questions and discuss ideas with respect to rail, TOD, affordable housing, and what has and has not worked in different cities with community leaders, city planners, elected officials, and housing

advocates. I learned about new innovations and how other cities are facing similar challenges as Honolulu. These various strategies used by our counterparts around the nation to help overcome obstacles related to public transportation can help provide guidance and solutions for the transit issues facing our city here in Honolulu.

City Council
City and County of Honolulu

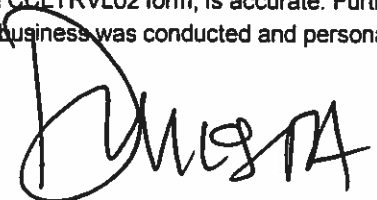
CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: 10/12/17

Traveler: DION MESTA
Event: RAIL~VOLUTION 2017
Location: DENVER, CO
Dates: From 09/16/17 To 09/21/17
17 20

Description	Amount	Notes:
1. Registration Fee		
2. Airfare		
3. Hotel	1256.50 ✓	SHERATON DENVER: 09/16/17 - 09/21/17
4. Meals	85.74 71.45 ✓	ALL RECEIPTS ATTACHED
5. Ground Transportation	9.00 ✓	RTD
6. Tips	15.00 29.66 ✓	SHERATON DENVER: \$3 PER DAY FOR 5 DAYS
7. Other	50.00 ✓	UNITED: BAGGAGE FEES
Other		
Other		
8. Adjustment		
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	1416.24 1416.61 ✓	

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment.



Signature of Traveler

10/12/17

Date